

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 7050 – SB 7063

August 22, 2023

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires, on or before January 1, 2024, the Department of Safety (DOS) to distribute firearm locks to each county's sheriff for distribution to members of the public. Requires that the department utilize existing state grant programs, to the extent possible, as well as appropriations made in a general or supplemental appropriation act to meet this requirement.

Requires that the initial distribution of firearm locks be based on county population and requires sheriffs to distribute such locks to persons who make a request, allowing for distribution of multiple locks to a single individual, as supplies are available. Authorizes redistribution of surplus locks between sheriffs, per demand.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - \$7,500/FY26-27 and Subsequent Years

Assumptions:

- Based on information provided by the DOS, the department received one-time funding of \$50,000 for gun safety programs in FY21-22 and purchased 20,000 firearm locks with the department's insignia. At a per unit cost of \$1.50, the total cost for such locks was \$30,000 (20,000 x \$1.50). These locks have been offered to the public, free-of-charge.
- As of August, 2023, the department still has approximately 14,000 locks remaining in its inventory.
- It will not be necessary for the department to purchase additional locks until this inventory has been depleted.
- Assuming that the department distributes approximately 3,000 firearm locks per year, the department will need to purchase additional locks in FY26-27 to replenish its inventory.
- It is assumed that the department would purchase an average of 3,000 locks in FY26-27 and subsequent years.
- It is reasonably assumed that the unit price of such locks would be greater than when purchased in FY21-22.
- It is assumed that the unit price of such locks will be approximately \$2.50.
- There will be a recurring increase in state expenditures in FY26-27 and subsequent years of \$7,500 (3,000 x \$2.50).

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- It is unknown what funds will be available to cover the costs of such locks, either from grants or otherwise.
- It is assumed that the DOS can distribute such locks using its statewide network of Tennessee Highway Patrol officers.
- Distribution by local sheriff's offices can be accommodated utilizing existing resources.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/jb